

GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

January 19, 2016

Dear Families,

Every Tuesday the administrative team meets together, and every other week we hold the meeting in a school. It's a nice way for principals to share ideas across school communities. It's also a powerful opportunity for administrators to show our support of Shrewsbury's students and staff.

Last week our team met at Floral, and in several classroom visits we saw examples of student work on opinion writing. We also saw some of the 'habits of mind' that ensure that Writing time is productive. Children listened to their teachers and to each other. Students worked independently for extended periods of time. Pairs of third graders were able to describe what they were working on and to share their ideas with their partners. In other words, as a visitor I got a good sense of Floral students' academic goals as well as a glimpse at their "social smarts". We'll be talking at length with students about this last term in upcoming all school meetings. Accordingly, in this week's message I wanted to give everyone a heads up about the word so you can use it, too.

'Social thinking' is a term used by speech and language pathologist Michelle Garcia Winner to describe a basic idea- that as we do things, we also notice and think about what others are doing. There are three major related points to ponder:

- how we think about people affects how we behave,
- the way we behave affects how others respond to us, and
- the way people respond to us affects our own emotions.

We are all uncomfortable when someone behaves unexpectedly. These thoughts about others sometimes stay in our heads (in our 'thought bubbles') and sometimes get spoken aloud (in our 'speech bubbles') The gist for our students is that it's important to tell someone when they are uncomfortable, but only kind and/or helpful thoughts about others should be shared aloud.

Most visitors at Coolidge notice the "family" feel of our school. At the same time, we all know that family dynamics can be tricky. It's my hope that with common language all of our young students can extend the positive relationships they build at home to their peers at school.

Sincerely,

Amy

Amy Clouter

Principal

Important Upcoming Dates:

1/20 PTO Mtg- Media Center, 7pm

1/22 School Store

1/23 Breakfast w/ a Buddy

1/26 Math Night, 6pm, see article

1/28 Block Kids - Grade 3, 6:15-7

2/2 Early release; dismissal 12:10

2/5 School Store

2/15-2/19 Winter Vacation

2/26 School Store

PARCC Testing Dates for Grades 3 and 4

April 26, 27, 28-Grade, 3 English Language Arts

May 2, 4, 5-Grade 4, English Language Arts

May 9-12-Grade 3, Math

May 16-19-Grade 4, Math

You're Invited to Math Night at Coolidge

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Parents, Guardians and Coolidge Students
Please join us for an evening of investigation.

Many teachers from all levels have planned a special evening of hands-on learning for students and their families.

Come learn about Math In Focus and strengthen your skills.
Leave with some math activities for more fun at home~ and maybe even a special prize!

You'll get to see how we are using interactive whiteboards, online resources, problem solving opportunities and math games to provide individualized, meaningful practice and challenge in math.

We will have engaging plans and materials waiting, all we need is you!

See the flyer here:

<http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/coolidge/documents/mathnight.2016.pdf>

Download, fill in and send in tear-off if you plan to attend.

Breakfast with a Buddy at Coolidge

Come join us for a pancake breakfast served with sausage and hash browns in the Coolidge cafeteria on **Saturday, January 23rd**. There will also be coffee and juice. Try your luck in our raffles too!

Tickets must be purchased before the event. Adults are \$6 each and children are \$5 with a \$25 family maximum. Checks are made payable to Coolidge PTO.

All food is purchase prior to the event, so no tickets will be sold at the door.



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Checks are made payable to Coolidge PTO. Please return the form to the school by Wednesday, January 20th.

Here is a link to the form:

https://coolidgepto.files.wordpress.com/2016/01/2016_coolidge_breakfast.pdf

All food is purchased prior to the event, so no tickets will be sold at the door.

For ticket info or if you would like to volunteer contact Diane Betti at ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.

WEATHER: We are watching the weather for the weekend. If we need to cancel the breakfast due to heavy snowfall, we will do so, at the latest, on Friday. We will post the cancellation on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/CoolidgeElementarySchool>, our School website:

<http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/coolidge/>. If any questions, you may email Diane at qltngbee10@yahoo.com

YOUNG REMBRANDTS DRAWING CLASSES STARTING SOON

A new session of Young Rembrandts will begin at Coolidge in a few weeks. A flyer is coming home today for the new session running on Friday afternoons, **Feb 5 - March 18**. Whether you are joining us for the first time or have taken our drawing classes in the past, winter is the perfect time to register for Young Rembrandts. No two sessions are ever the same-- we have all new lessons each week. Artists will advance techniques in color pencil, marker and Sharpie. Our engaging classes will make this an unforgettable winter for learning and fun. Online registration is the quickest and easiest way to enroll at www.youngrembrandts.com. You can also return the registration form to the school office with payment attached, or call our office directly to register over the phone: [\(508\) 393-8033](tel:5083938033)) 10% of your tuition goes back to



the Coolidge PTO to support school programming-- classes fill quickly so register today!

Here is the flyer:

<http://schools.shrewsbury.ma.gov/coolidge/documents/FLYER.COOLIDGE.FebMar2016.pdf>

COOLIDGE PTO MEETING

Join us on Wednesday, January 20th at 7pm in the Media Center of the school. All parents are encouraged to come!

We will hear updates on our fundraisers and events, the enrichment program plans, and more. Please contact President Rachel Reeve (ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us) with anything you want to discuss so it can be added to the agenda.

PTO NEWSFLASH

Email: ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Blog: <http://coolidgepto.wordpress.com/> The PTO has created a blog as an additional resource for information and notices. Come check it out!

Facebook Group: "Calvin Coolidge PTO"

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/coolidgepto/> All parents, guardians, and staff are welcome to join our group on Facebook. It's a great place to chat with the community or ask a question.

Direct Donation: <https://npo.justgive.org/coolidgepto> There are many ways to help support the PTO, a direct donation is just one.

1. PTO News- next meeting January 20th
2. December Reading Incentive winner
3. School Store- Friday January 8th
4. Annual Breakfast with a Buddy coming up

5. November/December Boxtop Winner!

1. Mark your calendars for our next meeting PTO on Wednesday January 20th. Please join us at 7pm in the Media Center of the school. All parents are encouraged to come! We will hear updates on our fundraisers and events, the enrichment program plans, and more. Please contact President Rachel Reeve (ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us) with anything you want to discuss so it can be added to the agenda.

2. Our December Reading Incentive Program drawing winner was Joey Morris, a second grader in Ms. Cloyes' class. Joey received a \$5 gift card to Barnes & Noble and a cool bookmark for all his hard work. Keep up the good work Joey. Continue to send in your child/children's reading sheets to be recorded on the classroom chart and maybe they will be the next winner as they work towards their ten sheets for a medal in June.

3. Our next School Store is Friday, January 8th. There is a variety of items, but we are always looking for donations. The students are always excited when they see new and fun items for sale. They are able to use tickets towards the purchase of items, if they are in grades 2 through 4. They receive a ticket worth 25 cents for each reading sheet that they pass in to their teachers. There is a donation box in the front lobby at the school for items. Thank you.

3. Watch for a form being sent home Monday for our Annual Breakfast with a Buddy which is open to all family members, extended family and friends. It will be held on January 23rd. Its always lots of fun for all with raffles, good food and fun with friends.

4. Congratulations to our November /December Boxtops winner, Paulo Fraga! Please remember to send in all of your Boxtops. Your trash is our treasure.

To include news about your committee, fundraiser or PTO event in future newsflashes, please e-mail your submissions to Kristie Biando at kbiando74@gmail.com